

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 06323 231051Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 /021 W

-----231929Z 052994 /47

R 230955Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0389

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6323

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, TH

SUBJECT: LIEUTENANT GENERAL WITUN YASAWAT RETURNS TO RTA

REF: (A) DAO BKK IR 6 895 0052 77

(B) BANGKOK A-66 OF 17 MARCH, 1977

1. FORMER ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF (PERSONNEL), RTA, LTG WITUN YASAWAT RETURNED TO THAILAND RECENTLY FROM HIS POST AS SUPERVISOR OF THAI STUDENTS IN JAPAN, A SINECURE TO WHICH HE HAD BEEN SENT AS A REPRIMAND FOR HIS ALLEGED PARTICIPATION IN A COUP PLOT AIMED AT SEIZING POWER FROM THE MILITARY GROUP WHICH OUSTED THE SENI PRAMOT GOVERNMENT ON OCTOBER 6, 1976.

2. BANGKOK PRESS HAS REPORTED WITUN'S RETURN AND SPECULATED THAT HE HAD REQUESTED TO BE REINSTATED IN THE ARMY AND THAT HIS REQUEST HAD BEEN APPROVED. ALTHOUGH THE DECISION HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED OFFICIALLY, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT WITUN WILL BE REINSTATED AND WILL BE ASSIGNED TO SUPREME COMMAND HEADQUARTERS WHERE ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE HE WILL WORK FOR GENERAL KRIANGSAK, WHO WILL MAKE SURE HE (WITUN) BEHAVES HIMSELF.

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3. WITUN, WHO IS KNOWN AS AN AMBITIOUS AND AGGRESSIVE OFFICER WILL NOT WIELD THE INFLUENCE NOR ENJOY THE PRESTIGE AT SUPREME COMMAND THAT HE DID AS ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF (PERSONNEL), RTA, BUT HE APPARENTLY HAS BEEN AT LEAST PARTIALLY FORGIVEN FOR HIS PURPORTED PAST TRANSGRESSIONS. HIS NAME HAS NOT BEEN AMONG THOSE

BANDIED BACK FORTH OF LATE AS LIKELY TO EMERGE AT OR
NEAR THE TOP IN THE NEXT RTA REASSIGNMENT EXERCISE, BUT
AT LEAST HE IS BACK IN THE RTA BALL PARK. FOR HIM THIS
IS BETTER THAN BEING AMBASSADOR IN SOME FAR AWAY
SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRY, AS THE RUMOR MILL HAD IT.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: LIEUTENANT GENERAL WITUN YASAWAT RETURNS TO RTA
TAGS: MILI, TH, US, (WITUN YASAWAT)
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